

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An active material for a positive electrode of a lithium secondary battery, comprising a lithium-nickel composite oxide of the general formula $\text{Li}_x(\text{Ni}_{1-y}\text{Co}_y)_{1-z}\text{M}_z\text{O}_2$, where:

$$0.98 \leq x \leq 1.10;$$

$$0.05 \leq y \leq 0.4;$$

$$0.01 \leq z \leq 0.2; \text{ and}$$

M is chosen from at least one element among Al, Zn, Ti, and Mg, wherein:
~~the active material is optionally subject to a washing process so that the difference between the specific surface area of the active material before the washing process and after the washing process is $1.07 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less.~~

a. according to Rietveld analysis, the Li site occupancy rate for Li sites in a crystal of the lithium-nickel composite oxide is 98% or greater;

b. the average particle size of spherical secondary particles of lithium-nickel composite oxide ranges from $5 \mu\text{m}$ to $15 \mu\text{m}$; and

c. ~~when the active material is subjected to a washing process, the difference between the specific surface area of the active material before the washing process and after the a washing process, the washing process being performed for assessing characteristics of the secondary particles as an index, is $1.07 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less.~~

2.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A lithium secondary battery comprising the active material of

claim 1 for a positive electrode.